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United States Patent and Trademark Office UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov FEB 1 9 2010 ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. APPLICATION LING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR CONFIRMATION NO. 10/730,990 12/10/2003 Richard Charles Gordon Cooper 63-5 5141 7590 02/03/2010 **EXAMINER** Cynthia J. Ledgley, ASTORINO, MICHAEL C Barrister & Solicitor, Patent & TM Agent *Suite 1000, (10th Floor) ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER 121 Richmond St. West Toronto, ON M5H 2K1 CANADA MAIL DATE **DELIVERY MODE** 02/03/2010 PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/730,990	COOPER, RICHARD CHARLES GORDON
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Michael C. Astorino	3769
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply		
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).		
Status		
 Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>15 October 2009</u>. This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i>, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. 		
Disposition of Claims		
4) Claim(s) 13-18 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 13-18 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.		
Application Papers		
9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.		
10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.		
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).		
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.		
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119		
 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. 		
Attachment(s) 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date	4) Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5) Notice of Informal Pa	te

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DETAILED ACTION

The Examiner acknowledges the response filed October 15, 2009, wherein claims 13-18 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 13-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fruge US Patent Number 5.954,512 in view of Lennox et al. US Patent Number 6,631,904.

Fruge teaches a mountable apparatus (figures 1, 3a, and 4) for assessing a psychological state arising from relationships and for marking a value associated with one or more events or experiences of an individual, the apparatus including a measurement device (10 or 10a), and said measurement device having a scale and a repositionable indicator (26, see column 7, lines 61-67, column 8, lines 1-14; and/or column 9, lines 31-57). Fruge provides qualitative and quantitative values because the scale uses treats, allowances, and bonus stars, and the scale has equidistant spaces which are equivalent to a numerical value.

Fruge lacks a manual but provides example instructions for deductions points from the scale (column 8, lines 8-13). However Lennox et al., a reference in an analogous art, describes using a manual repeatedly to assess point values (fig. 3). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the instructions of Fruge in

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view of written instructions of Lennox et al., since Lennox et al. states doing so creates predefined ground rules (column 1, lines 25-29).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 13-18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael C. Astorino whose telephone number is (571)272-4723.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30AM to 3:30PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Henry Johnson can be reached on 571-272-4726. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Michael C. Astorino/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3769

January 30, 2010

Application/Control No. Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination 10/730,990 COOPER, RICHARD CHARLES Notice of References Cited Examiner Art Unit Page 1 of 1 3769 Michael C. Astorino **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Document Number** Date Name Classification Country Code-Number-Kind Code MM-YYYY US-6,631,904 10-2003 Lennox et al. 273/236 US-5,954,512 09-1999 Fruge, David M. 434/238 В US-С US-D US-Ε US-F US-G US-Н US-US-J US-Κ US-L US-М FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Document Number Date Country Name Classification Country Code-Number-Kind Code MM-YYYY Ν 0 Р Q R s Т **NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS** Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages) U W

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).) Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

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